DARK AVENGERS®

SIEGE™

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DARK AVENGERS

NORMAN OSBORN, FORMER THUNDERBOLTS LEADER, HAS RISEN TO POWER AND WAS APPOINTED TO REPLACE TONY STARK AS HEAD OF THE NATIONAL PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE H.A.M.M.E.R., WHICH INCLUDES HIS OWN TEAM OF AVENGERS.

THEY'RE A GATHERING OF CONTROVERSIAL FIGURES THAT NORMAN HAS GIVEN THE ICONIC LIKENESSES OF MANY OF THE FAMOUS AVENGERS, AS WELL AS THE SECRET IDENTITIES THAT GO WITH THEM. JOINING FORMER MIGHTY AVENGERS ARES AND SENTRY ARE THE ASSASSIN BULLSEYE, NOW HAWKEYE; REFORMED CRIMINAL MOONSTONE, NOW MS. MARVEL; WOLVERINE'S DISTURBED SON DAKEN, NOW WOLVERINE; VENOM TRANSFORMED INTO A NEW SPIDER-MAN; AND NORMAN UNVEILED HIS NEW IDENTITY...THE IRON PATRIOT.

THE SENTRY HAS DIED TWICE: ONCE DURING BATTLE AND ONCE AT THE HAND OF HIS OWN LONG-SUFFERING WIFE, LINDY. HIS IDENTITY CRISIS CAME TO A HEAD WHEN THE SENTRY WAS UNABLE TO COMMIT SUICIDE AND THE VOID TOOK CONTROL AS THE DOMINANT PERSONALITY.

HE IS NOW BRINGING HIS DARK RAIN OF HELLFIRE DOWN UPON THE CITY OF NEW YORK...

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS – WRITER
RAIN BEREDO – COLOR ART
DESODATO AND BEREDO – COVER ART
TOM BREVOORT – EDITOR
DAN BUCKLEY – PUBLISHER
MIKE DESODATO – ART
VC'S CORY PETIT – LETTERER
LAUREN SANKOVITCH – ASSOCIATE EDITOR
JOE QUESADA – EDITOR IN CHIEF
ALAN FINE – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

H.A.M.M.E.R. HELICARRIER.
HOVERING OVER AVENGERS TOWER, NEW YORK CITY. THREE DAYS AGO.
SIR--
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOU TODAY, MISS HAND.
WELL, DIRECTOR OSBORN, YOU HAVE A COUPLE OF OPTIONS...
YOU CAN HAVE TEN MINUTES FOR ME *RIGHT NOW* OR YOU CAN HAVE THE HOURS, DAYS OR MAYBE WEEKS IT WILL TAKE TO PROPERLY *REPLACE ME* AS YOUR SECOND IN COMMAND.
BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T LISTEN TO ME--
MISS HAND... THESE DRAMATIC STANDS OF YOURS...
YOU HIRED ME, FIRST DAY, YOU HIRED ME TO TELL YOU *HOW IT IS*.
YOU SAID IT'S *WHY* YOU HIRED ME.
YES, BUT--
SO *THIS* IS HOW IT IS: YOU AND YOUR AVENGERS ARE FALLING APART.
THAT'S--
PICK ONE.
NAMES OF ADVANCED PSYCHOTHERAPISTS.
WHAT ARE THESE?
YOU TOLD ME TO FIND ONE--
MISS HAND--
YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
THE JOB...IS ALL-CONSUMING.
THE WORLD DOESN'T STOP TURNING.
I'M NOT EVEN TALKING ABOUT THE *REST* OF YOUR DYSFUNCTIONAL TEAM YET.
AS I SAID BEFORE--YOU'VE BEEN BURNING THE CANDLE AT BOTH ENDS *AND* THE MIDDLE SINCE YOU *CREATED* H.A.M.M.E.R. AND, SIR, YOU HAVE A CHECKERED HISTORY, AT *BEST*, AT DEALING WITH HIGH STRESS SITUATIONS FOR LENGTHY PERIODS OF TIME.
AND I'M JUST TALKING ABOUT *YOU*.
--WHO SPECIALIZES IN HIGH STRESS--
NO.
FULL CONFIDENTIALITY.
NO.
NICK FURY DID IT.
NO.
TONY STARK DID IT.
AND LOOK *WHERE THEY ARE NOW!!*

YOU WILL HAVE TO LEARN THAT NO MEANS NO!
AND YOU'LL HAVE TO LEARN THAT MY FATHER YELLED A LOT LOUDER THAN YOU CAN! SO YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO A LOT BETTER THAN THAT TO SHUT ME UP!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STEAM-ROLL OVER ME BY SHEER FORCE OF WILL.
YOU HIRED ME TO DO EXACTLY THIS AND I AM DOING IT, NOT ONLY FOR YOU BUT FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY THAT YOU SWORE TO PROTECT.
AND YOU KNOW THAT'S WHY I'M HERE AND WHY YOU WANT ME HERE SO CUT THE @#$@ AND LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.
THIS JOB IS ALL-CONSUMING, AND FOR THAT YOU NEED COUNSEL.
PROFESSIONAL COUNSEL.
YOU NEED TO WORK ON YOURSELF AND YOUR STRESS LEVELS.
YOU NEED SOMEONE TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOU.
PICK A NAME!
I'LL TRUST YOUR JUDGEMENT.
AND YOU'LL KEEP THE APPOINTMENT FOR--
YES, THAT--
YOU UNDERSTAND I DO THIS OUT OF--
YES.
SIR, IF I MAY, YOU HAVE THIS TENDENCY, AS MOST "TYPE A" PEOPLE DO, TO FINISH MY SENTENCES FOR ME OR ANSWER ME BEFORE I'VE FINISHED SPEAKING...
SO SURE ARE YOU THAT YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT IT IS I WAS GOING TO SAY.
YOU WERE GOING TO SAY YOU DO THIS OUT OF RESPECT FOR ME AND MY--
NO, I WAS GOING TO SAY I AM TERRIFIED THAT YOU WILL SNAP AND BECOME THE GREEN GOBLIN.

AND THAT YOU MAY HAVE BEEN SLIPPING IN AND OUT OF IT WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT.
OR EVEN SCARIER THAN THAT...
YOU MAY BE PUSHING YOURSELF THIS HARD AS AN EXCUSE TO DO SO.
I DON'T WANT THAT.
I WANT NORMAN OSBORN TO LEAD.
I WANT YOU TO LEAD OUR COUNTRY INTO A PLACE WHERE AMERICANS CAN LIVE PEACEFUL, FEARLESS LIVES OF COMFORT.
I THINK YOU HAVE THE CAPACITY FOR GREATNESS.
YOU'VE ALREADY DONE SUCH AMAZING THINGS.
BUT YOU'VE ALSO PUT YOURSELF AND YOUR MIND IN TERRIBLY COMPROMISING POSITIONS.
YOU AND YOUR TEAM WENT THROUGH A TERRIBLE TRAUMA WITH THE MOLECULE MAN...
AND YES, WE WON THE DAY...
BUT AT WHAT COST?
SEE...RIGHT NOW MOONSTONE AND BULLSEYE--
EXCUSE ME, YOUR MS. MARVEL AND HAWKEYE, ARE ENGAGING IN INAPPROPRIATE ACTS.
RIGHT NOW?
RIGHT NOW.
HOW DO YOU KNOW THIS?
BECAUSE I CAN SEE.
IS--IS THAT THE SECURITY CAMERA IN THEIR BEDROOMS?
SIR, THAT'S THE AVENGERS TOWER MEETING ROOM.

YES. AND THAT IS HAPPENING IN FRONT OF ASSIGNED H.A.M.M.E.R. AGENTS.
AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THAT IS NOT WHAT IT SEEMS.
THAT, SIR, IS AN ACT OF AGGRESSION TOWARDS YOU.
MOONSTONE IS WORKING HER WAY THROUGH YOUR TEAM.
ACTING OUT. WHY?
TO GET TO YOU.
MAYBE.
SHE ALREADY SCARED OFF NOH-VARR.
WE'LL GET HIM BACK.
AND NOW THIS.
THIS IS ABOUT UNCHECKED AGGRESSION.
FIRST YOU PUT THESE SELFISH, DANGEROUS PEOPLE IN THE SAME ROOM...
THESE ARE EXACTLY THE KIND OF SELFISH, DANGEROUS PEOPLE WE NEED TO GET THE JOBS DONE WE NEED DONE.
TRUE.
BUT ARE YOU GOING TO LET IT GO DOWN THIS ROAD WITH THEM, OR THE SMART ROAD?
TAKE CARE OF THIS AT YOUR DISCRETION.
NOW, IF YOU WOULD.
I'D DO IT MYSELF, BUT I FEEL I MAY DO OR SAY SOMETHING RASH AND UNPRODUCTIVE.
I HAVE FULL AUTHORITY?
YOU ALWAYS DID.
THANK YOU, SIR.
VICTORIA?
YES SIR?
FIND OUT FROM ARES HOW THE ASGARD PLANNING SESSIONS ARE GOING AND GET BACK TO ME.
SIR?
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE PUTTING TOGETHER ASGARD INVASION SCENARIOS FOR ME TO GO OVER.
BUT, SIR, YOU DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY.
YOU HAD YOUR MOMENT, VICTORIA.
DON'T PUSH IT.

HAHAHAHAHA!!
YOU'RE JUST THE DEVIL!!
AHEM!
OH, PLEASE.
WHAT IS THIS SUPPOSED TO BE?
GO TO YOUR ROOM, DOCTOR. HAWKEYE, YOU STAY HERE.
WHOA, WHAT'S GOING ON?
OH YEAH, HAND, IS IT YOUR TURN NEXT?
GO TO MY ROOM? ARE YOU SERIOUS?
DOCTOR, YOU'RE ACTING IN AN INAPPROPRIATE MANNER AND YOU ARE EXCUSED.
SISTER, ARE YOU HOLDING A GUN ON ME?
YOU ARE ONE DUMB--
END

AARGGHAGGHH!!
TAKE HER TO HER ROOM, PLEASE.
AFTER SHE'S DONE SPASMING.
GGKKSS...
YEAH.
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU IN YOUR SLEEP.
UH...
WELL LOOK AT YOU, ALL OF A SUDDEN.
I LIKE THIS NEW YOU.
DON'T PUSH ME.
FOR LETTING THAT HARPY USE YOU?
NO.
IF YOU'RE TOO STUPID TO STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM HER, WHAT THE HELL AM I GOING TO DO TO YOU THAT YOU AREN'T ALREADY DOING TO YOURSELF?
WHY DON'T YOU GO OFF TO THE GYM AND...CALM YOURSELF DOWN.
I'M NOT GROUNDED?
ARMOR?
ENVIRONMENTAL THREAT DETECTED.
WHAT KIND? FROM WHERE?
ANALYZING.
PUT IT ON SCREEN.
OH, NO...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

WE HAD A DEAL, ROBERT.

WE HAD A DEAL, YOU AND I.
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
YOU SAID THERE WAS NO VOID.
I WAS WRONG.
CLEARLY.
YES.
SO...I GUESS THERE IS NO ROBERT REYNOLDS, IS THERE?
THERE IS NO SENTRY.
THERE'S A LITTLE BIT.

AVENGERS! HIT THE STREET!
SAVE PEOPLE! EVERYONE YOU CAN!
GET THE INITIATIVE UP AND READY TO GO!
CALL ALL FRIENDLIES IN AND GET WORKING!
THEN LET ME TALK TO HIM.
NO. YOU JUST CONFUSE HIM.
HIS CHILDISH [illegible] BE A [illegible]
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME WHEN?
WHAT--WHAT HAPPENED THAT YOU WOULD DO THIS?
THAT YOU WOULD RUIN EVERYTHING WE HELPED EACH OTHER BUILD?

I LIVE AS A NORMAN. I TOOK OF FIGHTIN
AND THIS I TAKE I CAN SEE.
I CAN THE WORLD SOMETHING MUCH
INTO WHAT?
INTO SOMETHING ROBERT REYNOLDS AND LINDY CAN'T LIVE IN!
AND THEN THEY GO AWAY!
LINDY.
I CAN'T KILL HER. I CAN'T!
LET ME DO THAT.
BUT I CAN MAKE HER WATCH! I CAN PUNISH
WHAT DID-- WHAT DID SHE SAY TO YOU?

SHE'S NOT THE PROBLEM, NORMAN.
I THINK SHE MIGHT BE PART OF IT.
WHAT DID SHE DO?
LISTEN TO ME! YOU AND I HAD A DEAL!
LIKE A CAR SALESMAN?
THIS IS A TANTRUM!
MM. MAYBE.
THIS DOES NOTHING! A CHILD CAN DO THIS.
YOU WANT TO CHANGE THINGS? YOU WANT TO CONTROL YOUR WORLD:
YOU LISTEN TO ME! YOU DO WHAT I SAY, I CAN GIVE YOU THAT WHICH YOU EVEN--

[redacted]
I LIKE YOU.
BUT YOU'RE TRYING TO MANIPULATE WHILE I AM IN A VERY [redacted] STATE AND I FIND IT DISTASTEFUL.
MANIPULATE YOU? HOW COULD I MANIPULATE YOU?
I SAID YOU'RE TRYING. I DON'T SAY YOU'VE [redacted]
YOU WANT TO CONTROL YOUR LIFE? YOU DO WHAT I SAY!
THIS THING YOU'RE DOING HERE--THIS IS YOU TRYING TO GET YOURSELF KILLED.
WHO'S [redacted] TO KILL YOU?
NO!!
BUT REED RICHARDS CAN!
VICTOR VON DOOM CAN!
TONY STARK CAN!
YOU'LL FORCE THEM TO!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT? YOU WANT [redacted] TO KILL YOU?!
BECAUSE YOU DO THIS-- YOU DO THIS FOR ONE MORE SECOND! THAT'S WHAT COMES NEXT.
AND YOU KNOW IT!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?!

WHAT THE HELL?
I MEAN, WHAT THE HELL?

OKAY.
WHAT NOW?

YOU EVER DO THAT AGAIN, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
I WON'T STOP YOU. AND I WON'T STOP WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU NEXT.
I DESERVE MORE RESPECT FROM YOU THAN THIS, ROBERT, I REALLY DO.
BUT, THAT SAID, IF YOU NEED ME, IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE LIKE THIS...YOU COME TO ME. BEFORE THINGS GET TO THIS POINT.
LIKE A MAN. YOU DO THAT...I'M YOUR FRIEND.

WHAT NOW?
BOSS.

WHEN I CALL YOU TONIGHT...
I PROMISE YOU SOMETHING WORTH YOUR VISION OF THE WORLD.

SLICCEE SLICCEE SLICCEE
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT TODAY?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, HAWKEYE. IT'S UNDER CONTROL.
SURE.
IS THIS ABOUT THE THING WITH THE BROAD?
STAND UP.
YOU FEELING A LITTLE BLOOD-THIRSTY?
ALWAYS.
WHEN I GIVE YOU THE SIGNAL...
I NEED YOU TO TAKE CARE OF SOMETHING.
YEAH? WHO?
HIS WIFE.
TO BE CONTINUED...

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